

Middle School Initiative

**PART I
COVER SHEET**

CAP 4 SEMESTER 1 WEEK 2

COURSE: Administrative Officer Drill and Ceremonies, Achievement 10

LESSON TITLE: Group and Wing Formations

LENGTH OF LESSON: 50 Minutes

METHOD: Informal Lecture - Discussion

REFERENCE(S):

1. *Leadership: 2000 and Beyond*, Volume II, Chapter 9
2. AFM 36-2203, *Drill and Ceremonies*, Chapters 6 and 7, 3 Jun 96

AUDIO/VISUAL AIDS/HANDOUTS/ACTIVITY MATERIAL(S):

1. Overhead Projector
2. Transparencies

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVE: The objective of this lesson is for each cadet to:

1. Know the various types of parades.
2. Know the types of formations required in parades and/or reviews.

COGNITIVE SAMPLES OF BEHAVIOR: Upon completion of this class each cadet should know each type of parade and the ceremonies involved therein, and thoroughly acquainted with the formations required at these ceremonies.

AFFECTIVE OBJECTIVE: Each cadet shall become aware of all group and wing staff positions involved in a parade and review.

AFFECTIVE SAMPLES OF BEHAVIOR: Upon completion of this class each cadet should be able to assume any group or wing staff position in a parade and review with a minimum of continuation training.

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PART II TEACHING PLAN

Introduction

ATTENTION: A parade is made up of a formation of troops for a specific ceremony. Generally, it is a review with honors. A parade is also a ceremony within itself when respect is paid to the US flag, as in retreat.

MOTIVATION: A parade, if done correctly, is a beautiful sight to behold. Are you one to be responsible for this sighting?

TRANSITION: FALL IN!

Body

Instructor's Note: For explanation of symbols, refer to AFM 36-2203, page 6, Figure 1.1.

MP 1 Composition of the Group and Wing. The group is composed of two or more squadrons and the wing is composed of two or more groups. These formations are generally used for ceremonies such as inspections, reviews and parades.

When squadrons are formed as a group, the group commander gives commands directly to the squadrons. The squadron commanders relay preparatory commands and troops execute the movement upon the command of execution given by the group commander.

Wing formations do not drill by direct command of commander of troops (wing commander). The commander of troops directs that certain commands be carried out and the group commanders issue the appropriate commands to their respective squadrons.

NOTE: The instructor must have knowledge of all spacing requirements prior to this presentation.

Our first formation to be considered is the group in column with squadrons in column.

TRANSPARENCY DC10.1.1 - Group in Column

The primary purpose of the group in column, with squadrons in column, is to move the group from its formation area to a parade site or participate directly in a parade in column from that location.

Although this slide only shows one squadron in the column, others will, in fact, be following the first squadron.

TRANSPARENCY DC10.1.2 - Group in Line with Squadrons in Line

This formation may be used for whatever purpose the group commander desires. Such a formation could be used for a reveille or retreat ceremony, similar to the ceremonies conducted in CAP Years two and three of this program. This formation gives the group a wide front, but not much depth. Although not shown on this slide, the group commander may have a two or three man staff in position with him.

The next formation would be the group in line with squadrons in mass formation. This formation is the basis of most wing formations on a parade field. The width has been reduced and the depth increased. We have gone through the squadron mass formation procedure previously, so there is no need to review it at this time.

The next major formation is that of the wing in line with the squadrons in mass formation.

TRANSPARENCY DC10.1.3 - Wing in Line with Squadrons in Mass Formation

NOTE: See AFM 36-2203, *Drill and Ceremonies*, Figure 7-1, for layout of parade field.

During this formation the colors can be formally or informally received. In most cases, the colors are informally received from the back of the formation. To formally receive the colors is very time consuming, in that the entire wing must be formed, the color squadron directed to leave the field to escort the colors to the formation, the drop off of the colors at the front of the wing formation and the reforming of the escort squadron within the wing formation.

To informally accept the colors, the designated escort squadron receives the colors from the appropriate headquarters and escorts them down the rear of the line of troops on the parade field. The colors take their position on the final line. The escort squadron forms in mass formation at its prescribed location in line.

TRANSITION: We have seen the formation of the group and wing in line for a specific purpose. Just what would that purpose be? Essentially, it would be to review the troops, to honor individuals with decorations, to retire those individuals requesting a formal retirement ceremony, or to change the command of the unit. It could also incorporate a retreat ceremony in all of this.

MP 2 As we can see, we have an unspecified number of troops arranged in an organized fashion. If the space is too small for the contemplated ceremony, downsize the units accordingly, but maintain the appearance of proper decorum.

As I stated earlier, these formations have a purpose. That purpose is to accord honors to national symbols or individuals on special occasions; display the proficiency and state of training of the troops of the command; promote teamwork and pride in the organization; contribute to the public morale by displaying symbolically the strength and unity of the organization in support of the

locality in which we live. These formations are covered in depth in Chapter 6 of your drill and ceremonies manual. Be aware of the requirements for these formations and how they are organized.

NOTE: Time permitting, with cadets available, have them practice at least the group in line formation as depicted on Transparency DC10.1.2.

Conclusion

SUMMARY: To summarize this period, we have discussed two group formations and one wing formation. We have also talked about the purpose of these formations.

REMOTIVATION: Remember that thorough knowledge of parade formations and ceremonies is an integral part of the leadership requirements of a cadet officer. Your knowledge in this area of expertise can either make you or break you, as an effective leader of cadets.

CLOSURE: During our next class we will practice these formations in more detail and will give as many cadets as possible a chance to fill many of the staff positions. **DISMISSED!**

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**PART III
LESSON REVIEW**

LESSON OBJECTIVE(S): The purpose of this class was to acquaint the cadets with some group and wing formations and the purpose for them.

LESSON QUESTIONS: None